

JUDGE BATTIS  
WM 07-233 NM

07 CV

6020

*pleading*

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X  
EMILIA ORTIZ,

Docket No.:

Plaintiff,

-against-

**VERIFIED ANSWER**

WAL-MART REALTY COMPANY AND  
WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST,

Defendant.  
-----X

The defendant, WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP i/s/h/a WAL-MART REALTY COMPANY AND WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST, by its attorneys, BRODY, O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR, ESQS., answering the Verified Complaint herein states upon information and belief:

**AS TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

FIRST: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "1", and each and every part thereof.

SECOND: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "2", "3" and "4", and each and every part thereof.

THIRD: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "5, and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a foreign limited partnership registered to do business in the State of New York and is the operator of the White Plains Wal-Mart.

FOURTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "6" and "7", and each and every part thereof.

FIFTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "8", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a lessee of only that portion of the premises where the White Plains Wal-Mart is operated.

SIXTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "9", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a lessee of only that portion of the premises where the White Plains Wal-Mart is operated.

SEVENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "10", "11", "12", "13", "14" and "15", and each and every part thereof.

EIGHTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "16" and "17", and each and every part thereof.

NINTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "18", "19" and "20", and each and every part thereof.

TENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "21", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a foreign limited partnership registered to do business in the State of New York, and is the operator of the White Plains Wal-Mart.

ELEVENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "22" and "23", and each and every part thereof.

TWELFTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "24", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a lessee of only that

portion of the premises where the White Plains Wal-Mart is operated.

THIRTEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "25", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a lessee of only that portion of the premises where the White Plains Wal-Mart is operated.

FOURTEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "26", and each and every part thereof, except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a lessee of only that portion of the premises where the White Plains Wal-Mart is operated.

FIFTEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "27", "28", "29", "30", "31", "32", "33", "34" and "35", and respectfully refers all questions of law to the trial Court.

SIXTEENTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "36" and "37", and each and every part thereof.

SEVENTEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "38", "39", "40", "41", "42", "43", "44", "45", "46", "47", "48", "49" and "50", and each and every part thereof.

EIGHTEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "51", and respectfully refers all questions of law to the trial Court.

NINETEENTH: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "52", "53", "54", "55", "56" and "57", and each and every part thereof.

#### **AS TO THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

TWENTIETH: Defendant repeats and reiterates each and every denial in answer to paragraphs numbered "1" through "57", of the Complaint as if more particularly hereinafter set forth



in answer to paragraph numbered "58", and each and every part thereof.

TWENTY-FIRST: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "59" and "60", and respectfully refers all questions of law to the trial Court.

TWENTY-SECOND: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph(s) marked "61", "62" and "63", and each and every part thereof.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

TWENTY-THIRD: The plaintiff was guilty of culpable conduct, including contributory negligence and/or assumption of risk, and should an award be made to plaintiff, same should be diminished in the proportion which the culpable conduct and/or contributory negligence and/or assumption of risk attributable to the plaintiff bears to the culpable conduct and/or negligence which caused the damages.

**AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

TWENTY-FOURTH: In the event that plaintiff recovers judgment against this answering defendant and it is determined that plaintiff's damages were caused in whole or in part by two or more joint tortfeasors, then defendant's liability herein for non-economic loss may not exceed its equitable share of said damages in accordance with its relative culpability, as provided by Section 1601 of the CPLR.

**AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

TWENTY-FIFTH: Plaintiff's recovery, if any, shall be reduced by the amount of any collateral payments received, in accordance with CPLR Section 4545.

WHEREFORE, defendant, WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP i/s/h/a WAL-MART REALTY COMPANY AND WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST, requests judgment


dismissing the Complaint herein, together with costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: Northport, New York  
June 22, 2007

Yours, etc.

BRODY, O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR, ESQS.  
Attorneys for Defendant,  
WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP i/s/h/a  
WAL-MART REALTY COMPANY AND  
WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST

By:

  
PATRICIA A. O'CONNOR (PO-5645)  
7 Bayview Avenue  
Northport, New York 11768  
(631) 261-7778  
File No.: WM 07-233 NM

TO: HOFFMAIER & HOFFMAIER, LLP  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Thirty Avenue B  
New York, New York 10009  
(212) 777-9400

**AFFIRMATION BY ATTORNEY**

The undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the Courts of the State of New York, shows:

That affirmant is the attorney for the defendant in the within action; that affirmant has read the foregoing Verified Answer and knows the contents thereof; that the same is true to the affirmant's knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief; and that as to those matters, affirmant believes it to be true.

Affirmant further says that the reason this Verification is made by deponent and not by the defendant is that defendant is a foreign limited partnership.

The grounds of belief as to all matters not stated upon deponent's knowledge are documents, correspondence and records maintained in your deponent's files and conversations and conferences had with the defendant.

The undersigned affirms that the foregoing statements are true under the penalties of perjury.

Dated: Northport, New York  
June 22, 2007

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICIA A. O'CONNOR (PO-5645)

## DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
 )ss.:  
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK )

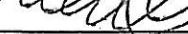
**STEPHANIE INZERILLO**, hereby declares, pursuant to 28 U.S.C., Section 1746 and Local Civil Rule 1.10 of this Court, that I am not a party to the action; I am over 18 years of age and reside at **Nesconset**, New York.

On June 22, 2007, I served the within **VERIFIED ANSWER** by depositing a true copy of the same enclosed in a post-paid properly addressed wrapper, in an official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Postal Service within the State of New York, addressed to each of the following persons at the last known address set forth after each name:

HOFFMAIER & HOFFMAIER, LLP  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Thirty Avenue B  
New York, New York 10009  
(212) 777-9400

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 22, 2007.

  
STEPHANIE INZERILLO



Index No.

Year 20

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

EMILIA ORTIZ,

Plaintiff(s),

-against-

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WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST,

Defendant(s).

**VERIFIED ANSWER****BRODY, O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR, ESQS.**

Attorneys for

Defendant

7 BAYVIEW AVENUE  
NORTHPORT, NEW YORK 11768  
(631) 261-7778  
FAX (631) 261-6411

Pursuant to 22 NYCRR 130-1.1, the undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the courts of New York State, certifies that, upon information and belief and reasonable inquiry, the contentions contained in the annexed document are not frivolous.

Dated: .....

Signature .....

Print Signer's Name .....

Service of a copy of the within

is hereby admitted.

Dated: .....

Attorney(s) for

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**

Check Applicable Box

☐  
NOTICE OF  
ENTRYthat the within is a (certified) true copy of a  
entered in the office of the clerk of the within named Court on

20

☐  
NOTICE OF  
SETTLEMENTthat an Order of which the within is a true copy will be presented for settlement to the  
Hon. one of the judges of the within named Court,  
at  
on 20 , at M.

Dated:

**BRODY, O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR, ESQS.**

Attorneys for

7 BAYVIEW AVENUE  
NORTHPORT, NEW YORK 11768  
(631) 261-7778  
FAX (631) 261-6411

To: